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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Handelsman et al Application No: 09/877,406 Filed: June 8, 2001 For: <i>Microorganism Genomic Compositions and Methods Related There to</i>	SEP 24 2001 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE J048 Examiner: Not yet assigned Art Unit: 1636 Attorney Docket No. AVI-001.03
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 21, 2001.

Michael R. Phelan

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, please replace the two line paragraph below the heading "Related Applications" and insert the following replacement paragraph:

21 -- This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/969,651 filed November 13, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/956,692 filed October 24, 1997, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/063,230 filed October 23, 1997. --